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## NOTES AND NEWS.

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Mr. A. R. Maxson has been appointed tutor in mathematics at Columbia University.

Mr G. H. Light has been appointed instructor in mathematics at Purdue University.

Purdue University has appointed Mr. W. A. Tehring as instructor in pure mathematics.

Mr. Arthur Ranum has been appointed assistant in mathematics at Stanford University.

Miss Florence Hanington has been appointed fellow in mathematics at Bryn Mawr College.

Mr. H. W. Stager and Mr. T. G. Brown are assistants in mathematics at Stanford University.

Mr. W. A. Pickering has received the appointment of professor of applied mathematics at Cardiff.

A technical high school with accommodations for 1200 people will be erected at Newark, N. J.

Miss Louise Duffield Cummings has been appointed scholar in mathematics at Bryn Mawr College.

Mr. Paul N. Peek has been appointed instructor in mathematics in the George Washington University.

Mr. Edwin Haviland, A. M. (Cornell), is a candidate for the doctorate in mathematics at Stanford University.

At Grinnell College, Assistant Professor W. J. Rusk has been promoted to a full professorship in mathematics.

Mr. G. M. Conwell has received the appointment of fellow in mathematics at Princeton University for the year 1905-1906.

At the College of the City of New York Mr. G. C. Daly, Mr. H. W. Powell, and Mr. L. P. Siceloff have been appointed tutors in mathematics.

The Bolyai prize has been awarded to M. Poincaré, in recognition of his researches in mathematics during the past five years. The awarding commission met in Budapest last month.

There will be a Civil Service examination on December 6 to fill a vacancy in the position of computer (male) in the forest service. The salary attached to the position is \$1000 per annum.

Professor Arnold Emch, formerly of the University of Colorado, has assumed his new duties as professor of mathematics at his alma mater, the Cantonal College of Solothurn, Switzerland.

On Tuesday, January 9, 1906, Dr. George Bruce Halsted will deliver an address at Ohio State University, under the auspices of the Philosophical Society on "The Non-Euclidean Contribution to Philosophy."

The Academy of Sciences of Berlin held its Leibnitz session on June 29. The sum of six thousand marks was set apart in recognition of the investigations of the late Guido Hauck, but the Steiner prize was not awarded.

Dr. Arthur G. Hall, formerly instructor in mathematics at the University of Michigan, and associate professor of mathematics at the University of Illinois, has been called to the professorship of mathematics at Miami University.

Professor C. J. Keyser is in editorial charge of the mathematical department of the *Encyclopedia Americana*, about to be issued by the *Scientific American*. Special attention has been given to this department, and over forty articles have been written for the *Encyclopedia* by American mathematicians on their several special fields of investigation.

The following have been elected members of the American Mathematical Society: Lieutenant Colonel C. P. Echols, U. S. Military Academy; Professor G. B. Guccia, University of Palermo; Professor H. B. Evans, University of Pennsylvania; Dr. A. M. Hiltebeitel, Princeton University; Dr. J. M. Poor, Dartmouth College; Professor J. E. Williams, Virginia Polytechnic Institute.

The London Mathematical Society held its annual general meeting at the Registered Office of the Society, 22 Albemarle Street, London, on November 9th. The following officers were elected for the ensuing year: President, A. R. Forsyth, Sc. D., F. R. S.; Vice-Presidents, W. F. Burnside, Sc. D., F. R. S., Sir William Niven, K. C. B., F. R. S.; Treasurer, J. Larmor, D. Sc., F. R. S.; Secretaries, A. E. H. Love, D. Sc., F. R. S., and J. H. Grace, M. A.

The American Mathematical Society held its October meeting at Columbia University on Saturday, October 28th. The program issued for the meeting announced the following papers: "On the Cayley-Veronese Class of Configurations," by Professor W. B. Carver; "Multiple Improper Integrals," by Professor James Pierpont; "Poncelet Quadrilaterals on a Curve of the Third Order and a Conic," by Professor H. S. White; "On the Geodesics Passing through a Given Point of a Surface," by Dr. Edward Kasner.

The November number of the *Bulletin of the American Mathematical Society* contains the following papers: "A Set of Generators for Ternary Linear Groups," by Ida May Schottenfels; "Note on the Structure of Hyper-Complex Number Systems," by Saul Epstein; "A Geometric Property of the Trajectories of Dynamics," by Edward Kasner; "On the Possible Numbers of Operators of

Order 2 in a Group of Order  $2^m$ ," by G. A. Miller; "On the Arithmetic Nature of the Coefficients in Groups of Finite Monomial Linear Substitutions," by W. A. Manning.

The fifth annual meeting of the Central Association of Science and Mathematics Teachers will be held in Chicago (153 LaSalle Street) on November 30, December 1 and 2. The following addresses will be made before the mathematics section: "The Straight Line in Geometry," by J. W. Withers, Teachers College, St. Louis; "Interest and Progress in the Teaching of Mathematics," by N. J. Lennes, Wendell Phillips High School, Chicago; "Aims in Teaching Algebra," by Professor Robert J. Aley, Indiana University; "Some Thoughts on the Teaching of Geometry," by C. A. Patterson.

Rev. J. Edward Kirby, D. D., was inaugurated as the fourth president of Drury College on November 9th. The installation ceremonies were signalized by a special reunion of the alumni of the college and its friends. "Democracy and Higher Education" was the subject of President Kirby's inaugural address. Other educators who delivered addresses were Rev. Stephen M. Newman of Washington, D. C., Chancellor W. S. Chaplin of Washington University, Professor John Picard of the University of Missouri, Professor George E. Comstock of the University of Wisconsin, Father Roger of St. Louis University.

At the last commencement at Grinnell College, Professor Samuel J. Buck retired from active service and was made professor emeritus after a continuous service of forty-one years at that institution. He graduated from Oberlin College in 1858. In 1862, he graduated from Oberlin Theological Seminary, entered the University in 1864, was made principal of the Academy in Grinnell College in 1864, and made professor of mathematics and physics in the college in 1869. In 1893 he was elected professor of mathematics and astronomy at the same college, which position he has held up to the present time. July fourth, 1905, Professor Buck was seventy years old. He is in excellent health and leaves the honored position which he has made and brought to high college rank after more than two scores of years of service, appreciation for which was shown in marked way by the friends of the college at the time of his retirement.

Princeton University has, during the past year, adopted and put into practice the preceptorial system of instruction, largely increasing her staff of professors in all departments. As a result, the following changes have gone into effect in the mathematical department this Fall: Mr. J. H. Jeans, of Trinity College, Cambridge has been appointed professor of applied mathematics to fill the chair vacated by Prof. E. O. Lovett on his being transferred to the department of astronomy. Dr. L. P. Eisenhart and Dr. William Gillespie have been promoted to preceptorships and the following have been called from other institutions to preceptorships: Dr. G. A. Bliss from the University of Missouri, Dr. Oswald Veblen from the University of Chicago, Professor John W. Young from the Northwestern University. The newly appointed instructors are: C. R. MacInnes from the Johns Hopkins University, A. L. Underhill and E. B. Morrow.

A curious poetical tribute to Archimedes, composed by a French mathematician, is recalled by *The Academy* (London). The first calculation of the numerical value of  $\pi$  is ascribed to Archimedes, and, carried out to thirty decimal places, this value is 3.141592653589793238462643383279. Each of the thirty-one words in the quatrain, in order, contains the number of letters given by the corresponding figure in the numerical value of  $\pi$ , as follows:

<sup>3</sup> <sup>1</sup> <sup>4</sup> <sup>1</sup> <sup>5</sup> <sup>9</sup> <sup>2</sup> <sup>6</sup> <sup>5</sup> <sup>3</sup> <sup>5</sup>  
 Que j' aime á faire apprendre un nombre utile aux sages  
<sup>8</sup> <sup>9</sup> <sup>7</sup> <sup>9</sup>  
 Immortel Archimede, artiste ingénieur!  
<sup>3</sup> <sup>2</sup> <sup>3</sup> <sup>8</sup> <sup>4</sup> <sup>6</sup> <sup>2</sup> <sup>6</sup>  
 Qui de ton jugement peut priser la valeur  
<sup>4</sup> <sup>3</sup> <sup>3</sup> <sup>8</sup> <sup>3</sup> <sup>2</sup> <sup>7</sup> <sup>9</sup>  
 Pour moi ton problème eut de pareils avantages.

The *Frankfurter Zeitung* adds the following similar "effort" from a German "poet and geometrician:":

<sup>3</sup> <sup>1</sup> <sup>4</sup> <sup>1</sup> <sup>5</sup> <sup>9</sup> <sup>2</sup> <sup>6</sup> <sup>5</sup>  
 Dir o Held, o alter Philosoph, Du Riesen-Genie!  
<sup>3</sup> <sup>5</sup> <sup>8</sup> <sup>9</sup> <sup>7</sup> <sup>9</sup> <sup>3</sup> <sup>2</sup> <sup>3</sup> <sup>8</sup>  
 Wie viele Tausende bewundern Geister himmlisch wie Du und göttlich!  
<sup>4</sup> <sup>6</sup> <sup>2</sup> <sup>6</sup> <sup>4</sup> <sup>3</sup> <sup>3</sup> <sup>8</sup> <sup>3</sup> <sup>2</sup> <sup>7</sup> <sup>9</sup>  
 Noch reiner in Aeonen wird das uns strahlen wie im lichten Morgenrot!

The translation of the French is: "How I love to teach a number useful to the wise immortal Archimedes, artist—engineer! Who can appraise the worth of thy judgment? For me thy problem has equal advantages." The German runs thus: "To thee, O hero, O old philosopher, O giant genius! How many thousand souls wonder, heavenly as thou and divine! Yet clearer in the ages will that stream on us than in the luminous dawn." Neither of these can be said to be very clear, but considering the limitations of their composition they are certainly remarkable, gravely comments the *Literary Digest*. Meanwhile, will some one give us an English version of  $\pi$ ?

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## BOOKS AND PERIODICALS.

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*Advanced Algebra*. By Herbert E. Hawkes, Ph. D., Assistant Professor of Mathematics in Yale University. Cloth, 8vo., XIV+285 pages. List price, \$1.40; mailing price, \$1.50. Ginn & Co., Boston, New York, Chicago, London.

An algebra preëminently suited for short college courses should be comprehensive enough to set forth amply all the parts of the science that are recognized as essentials, and it should be terse enough to be covered in a college term without skipping chapters and parts of chapters, and thus interfering with the continuity of the student's development. *Advanced Algebra* is a book of decided merit when judged from this standpoint. The parts of the science usually taught in college freshman algebra courses are presented in less than three hundred pages, and the treatment is, on the whole, exceptionally clear and forceful. The text is full of the laboratory spirit; graphical representations, and graphical methods of solution of equations form an integral part of Professor Hawkes' work, and they are